IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1.   (currently amended) A test support apparatus for supporting a test of a screen program using a graphic user interface, comprising:

a test support class generation unit obtaining screen definition information defining a test target screen program, and generating a test support class which is a subclass inheriting a class of the test target screen program responsive to the screen definition information, and a class for testing the test target screen program; and

a test execution unit conducting a test of the test target screen program defined by the screen definition information using the generated test support class to thereby test the screen program using the graphical user interface, and

wherein the screen definition information comprises a class name of a parent of the test target screen program and the test support class is generated as a child class by inheriting the parent class.

2.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising

a test specification generation unit generating a test specification for the test target screen program according to the screen definition information, and providing the test specification for said test execution unit.

3.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

a test report generation unit generating a test report using the test specification generated by said test specification generation unit and a test execution result obtained by said test execution unit.

4.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

said test support class has a function of supporting input of input test data.

5.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said test support class has a function of recording a test result obtained when a test is conducted.

6.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said test support class has a function of visually indicating a test execution portion on a screen.

7.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said test support class has a function of conducting a test using new input test data or input data about a previous test execution result.

8.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

said test support class has a function of displaying a warning when an execution result of a test conducted using the input data about the previous test execution result is different from the previous test execution result.

9.   (original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said test support class has a function of supporting measurement of performance of the test target screen program.

10.   (currently amended) A test supporting method for supporting a test of a screen program using a graphic user interface, comprising:

obtaining screen definition information defining a test target screen program, and generating a test support class which is a subclass inheriting a class of the test target screen program responsive to the screen definition information, and a class for testing the test target screen program; and

conducting a test of the test target screen program defined by the screen definition information using the generated test support class to thereby test the screen program using the graphical user interface, and

wherein the screen definition information comprises a class name of a parent of the test target screen program and the test support class is generated as a child class by inheriting the parent class.

11.   (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program used to direct a computer to control support of a test of a screen program using a graphic user interface, said program to direct said computer to perform the process of:

obtaining screen definition information defining a test target screen program; and

generating a test support class which is a subclass inheriting a class of the test target screen program responsive to the screen definition information, and a class for testing the test target screen program defined by the screen definition information to thereby test the screen program using the graphical user interface, and

wherein the screen definition information comprises a class name of a parent of the test target screen program and the test support class is generated as a child class by inheriting the parent class.

12.   (currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program used to direct a computer to control support of a test of a screen program using a graphic user interface, said program to direct said computer to perform the process of:

receiving input data; and

conducting a test of a test target screen program using a test support class which is a subclass inheriting object-oriented programming for a class of the test target screen program, and tests a screen program using the received input data, and

wherein the screen definition information comprises a class name of a parent of the test target screen program and the test support class is generated as a child class by inheriting the parent class.

13.   (currently amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave and representing a program that makes the computer perform the control for supporting a test of a screen program sing a graphic user interface, and the program makes the computer execute the process of:

receiving new input test data, or input data about a previous test execution result; and

conducting a test of a test target screen program using a test support class which is a subclass inheriting object-oriented programming for a class of the test target screen program, and tests a screen program using the received input data, and

wherein the screen definition information comprises a class name of a parent of the test target screen program and the test support class is generated as a child class by inheriting the parent class.

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14.   (currently amended) A test support apparatus for supporting a test of a screen program sing a graphic user interface, comprising:

test support class generation means for obtaining screen definition information defining a test target screen program, and generating a test support class which is a subclass inheriting a class of the test target screen program responsive to the screen definition information, and a class for testing the test target screen program; and

test execution means for conducting a test of the test target screen program defined by the screen definition information using the generated test support class to thereby test the screen program using the graphical user interface, and

wherein the screen definition information comprises a class name of a parent of the test target screen program and the test support class is generated as a child class by inheriting the parent class.

15.   (new) A test method, comprising:

using a screen definition to produce a test program for a screen program that interacts with a graphical user interface where the screen definition comprises a class name of a parent of the screen program and the test program is generated as a child class by inheriting a parent class; and

testing the screen program and interface using the test program selected responsive to the screen definition, and

16.   (new) A test method, comprising:

using a screen definition to produce a test program for a screen program that interacts with a graphical user interface where the screen definition comprises a class name of a parent of the screen program and the test program is generated as a child class by inheriting a parent class;

generating a test specification for the test target screen program responsive to the screen definition information; and

testing the screen program and interface using the test program selected and test specification generated responsive to the screen definition.

17.   (new) A test method, comprising:

using a screen definition to produce a test program for a screen program that interacts with a graphical user interface where the screen definition comprises a class name of a parent of

the screen program and the test program is generated as a child class by inheriting a parent class;

generating a test specification for the test target screen program responsive to the screen definition information;

testing the screen program and interface using the test program selected and test specification generated responsive to the screen definition; and

generating a test report using the test specification and a test execution result produced by the testing.